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# Idaho Professional-Technical Education

## Accelerated Learning and Preparation for Postsecondary Education

The State Division of Professional-Technical Education supports the need for improvements to make the high school experience relevant, engaging and rigorous so that students are better prepared to enter and graduate from a postsecondary institution and successfully function in the workforce. The Division believes that a combination of solid academic courses and rigorous technical programs organized in a mutually supportive educational plan is the best way to accomplish this. The changes proposed by the State Board of Education, as recommended by the Accelerated Learning Task Force, if implemented system-wide, will ensure that students will be better prepared.

The Postsecondary Readiness Plan, required at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, is the first step in helping students, with parent involvement, plan their junior high and high school educational experiences for maximum benefit. The graduation requirements include 8 credits for Career Focus. Students pursuing a professional-technical emphasis of their choice are able to use these 8 credits for that purpose while receiving advanced opportunities for postsecondary credit through Tech Prep and other dual credit opportunities.

These recommendations fit well with the Division's Quality Initiative. The key components are: 1) rigorous technical programs; 2) integration of academic achievement standards; and, 3) articulation of high school and college curriculum. Professional-technical content has the potential to add relevance and rigor to the new requirements. Integration of applied content into mathematics and science instruction will facilitate student achievement in these areas. Current professional-technical courses have also been approved as meeting the lab science standards, the Health and Wellness, and Economics graduation requirements. Those courses are:

Required Content	IBEDS #	Professional-Technical Course(s)
6 credits-Lab Science	0154	Botany/Plant and Soil Science
	0155	Botany/Science of Plant Growth & Development
	0156	Botany/Horticulture Plant Science
	0157	Botany/Forestry Science
	0158	Botany/Advanced Forestry Science
	0159	Botany/Range Science
	0161	Ecology/Natural Resource Science
	0162	Ecology/Environmental Science
	0171	Zoology/Animal Science
	0172	Zoology/Science of Animal Nutrition
	0173	Zoology/Science of Animal Reproduction
	0181	Food Science
	0182	Aquaculture Science
	0183	Equine Science
	0184	Agricultural Biotechnology
	0185	Intro to Environmental Science Technology
	0186	Environmental Sciences Tech. Applications
	0187	Advanced Environmental Sciences Internship
	0504	Food Science and Nutrition
	1671/1672	Applied Physics I & II
	1529	Anatomy and Physiology for Health Professions
1 credit-Economics	0126	Agricultural Business and Economics
	0227	Economics & the World of Finance
	0517	Personal and Family Finance/Economics
	1854	Marketing Economics
1 credit-Health & Wellness	1501	Orientation to Health Professions
	1520	Fundamentals for Health Professions
	0515	Family Health and Wellness
8 credits-Career Focus	See Codes	Professional-Technical courses taken in a planned sequence.

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